



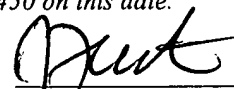
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application )  
 )  
Applicant: Dana J. Medlin )  
 )  
Serial No. 10/705,420 )  
 )  
Filed: November 10, 2003 )  
 )  
For: CASE HARDENED )  
 ORTHOPEDIC IMPLANT )  
 )  
Art Unit: 3738 )  
 )  
Examiner: David J. Isabella )

*I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date.*

October 21, 2004  
Date

  
Registration No. 41,017  
Attorney for Applicant

**AMENDMENT B**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed October 4, 2004, please amend the Application

as follows: